A NEW SPECIES OF PERITYLE (ASTERACEAE, HELENIEAE) FROM SOUTHERN ZACATECAS, MEXICO

Billie L. Turner

Department of Botany, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713 U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

A new species, Perityle glaucescens B.L. Turner, is described from southern Zacatecas, México. The taxon has discoid heads and pinnately parted leaves; it is closely related to *P. feddemae*, which shares these characters, but differs in having densely tomentulose glaucescent foliage (vs. glabrous and green).

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Helenieae, Perityle, México, Zacatecas

Perityle is a genus of the tribe Helenieae renowned for its very localized cliff-dwelling endemics (Powell 1973, 1974). The present novelty follows the pattern found in the sect. Laphamia, to which it belongs, where in close proximity are found closely related species that are strikingly different in morphology. Thus, P. glaucescens B.L. Turner is clearly closely related to P. feddemae McVaugh, both sharing the rather unusual features of discoid heads and pinnately parted leaves, yet differs markedly in having densely tomentulose foliage and linear leaf divisions (vs. glabrous or atomiferous-glandular and divisions spatulate).

Perityle glaucescens B.L. Turner, sp. nov. TYPE: MEXICO. Zacatecas: km 8 along the road between El Teul and Florencia, "Rupicola, en acartilado de exposición oeste", 2000 m, 17 Oct 1992, José A. Lomeli Sención s.n. (HOLOTYPE: TEX!).

Perityle feddemae McVaugh similis sed foliis dense penitus tomentellis, planta glaucescens (vs. glabris atomati-glandulosis, planta viridis), et foliorum segmentis ultimis plerumque spathulatis (vs. linearibus) differt. Perennial glaucescent herbs, to 20 cm high, the delicate shoots arising from an enlarged woody root ca. 3 cm across. Stems slender, 0.5-2.0 mm thick, densely white-tomentulose. Leaves opposite throughout, those at midstem mostly tripartitely dissected, the ultimate segments linear to linear-oblanceolate, 4-12 mm long, 0.5-1.5 mm wide, pubescent like the stems. Heads borne singly, terminal or axillary, the ultimate peduncles mostly 1-2 cm long. Involucres campanulate, 3-4 mm high, ca. 5 mm across (pressed), the bracts ca. 11, uniseriate, linear-oblanceolate, tomentulose. Ray florets absent. Disk florets 15-30 per head (estimated), the corollas yellow, ca. 2.5 mm long, the tube ca. 1 mm long. Achenes ca. 2 mm long, the margins weakly enlarged and ciliate with short hispidulous hairs, the pappus of 2 slender awns ca. 1 mm long, between these a short erose crown of scales ca. 0.1 mm high or less.

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LITERATURE CITED